

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/605,199
Docket NO.: 11438-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 23-26 and 35-38 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Mandelman et al. (U.S. 6,777,737). The Office Action also indicated that claims 27-34 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates this indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended claim 23 by introducing the limitation recited in claim 29 and has further canceled claim 29. Moreover, Applicant has added claims 39 and 40 which are obtained by rewriting claims 27 and 28 into independent forms. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 23-28 and 30-40 are in condition for allowance and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 23-28 and 30-40 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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